IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first sentence of the specification with --This is a continuation of application serial no. 09/597,878, filed on June 20, 2000, which is a continuation of issued U.S. patent no. 6,104,700.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 4 with the following:

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram illustrating periodic evaluation of QoS categories according to one embodiment of the present invention. In this embodiment, at step 310, processing loops until the predetermined evaluation time period has expired. For example, a test may be performed to determine if the current time is greater than or equal to the last evaluation time plus the predetermined evaluation time interval. Alternatively, the evaluation process may be triggered by an interrupt. In any event, when it is time to evaluate the QoS queue categorization, processing continues with step 330.